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(54) **UV-curable epoxysilicones.**

(57) Epoxy functional silicone materials incorporating vinyl containing multifunctional resins form control release additives when the resins are first partially crosslinked by means of a hydrosilation reaction with a low molecular weight SiH silicone fluid and the reaction product is reacted with an epoxy containing material in a second hydrosilation reaction. The resulting materials function as control release additives in pressure sensitive adhesives.

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

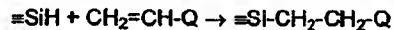
Curable silicone coatings for release of pressure-sensitive adhesives (PSA) are known. These coatings may be cured via tin-catalyzed condensation reactions, platinum-catalyzed addition reactions, or radiation-initiated crosslinking reactions.

Linear polydimethyl siloxanes form what are referred to as premium or low release coatings. When cross-linked, these materials form adhesive surfaces from which a PSA-laminated facestock may be detached with very little force required. Such premium release characteristic is desirable for many applications.

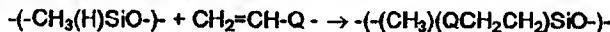
There are, however, significant applications for silicone release coatings which do not provide easy release from PSA's. Such coatings which provide a tight or controlled release characteristic are desirable, for example, in industrial labeling operations which run at high speed. A high release silicone agent is desirable in order to prevent so-called premature dispensing of the label from the release liner. A controlled release characteristic is useful for two-sided release laminate applications wherein one side of the laminate is coated with a premium release silicone and the other side is coated with a tight release silicone, thus providing a differential release structure.

Ideally, silicone release systems that have a range of release characteristics are desirable. Such silicone coating systems would enable an end-user to selectively adjust the formulation to give the desired level of release depending on the specific application. A tight release polymer capable of giving a range of release levels in a blend with premium release polymer is referred to as a controlled release additive (CRA).

Ultraviolet light-curable silicone release coatings based on epoxysilicone polymers, as taught by Eckberg et al., U.S. 4,279,717, are widely used in the release coating and pressure-sensitive adhesive (PSA) industries. For example, see generally the chapter entitled "Silicones" by B. Hardman and A. Torkelson in the Encyclopedia of Polymer Science and Engineering, 2nd edit., Vol. 15, pp. 204-308, 1989, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York. Epoxysilicone polymers are conveniently manufactured through the hydrosilation reaction between an SiH-containing silicone monomer or polymer, and olefin epoxides. The general hydrosilation reaction between a silicone and olefin can be expressed for monofunctional silane derivatives as



and for di-functional siloxane derivatives as

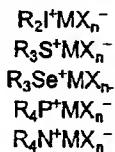


where in both cases Q is an organic radical. The hydrosilation reaction is particularly useful for the addition of functional radicals onto silanes and silicones. For example, reaction of a hydrogensiloxane with an epoxy-containing olefin yields an epoxy-functional siloxane.

Epoxysilicones generated through, for example, the hydrosilation reaction can be cured either thermally or, in the presence of the appropriate catalysts and possibly accelerators, by irradiation. Generally, UV-induced, cationic catalysis is preferred in the cure reaction of epoxysilicones due to the relatively high cure rates achieved, and the low temperature which can be employed, thereby preventing damage to temperature-sensitive materials being coated, and the low risk of potential hazards to both industrial users and the environment. Upon exposure to UV radiation, cationic type photo-initiators generate a strong Brønsted acid, which effects the opening of the oxirane ring in the epoxide radical of an epoxysilicone polymer, and the subsequent etherification through which cross-linking of the resin is achieved.

The curing of epoxysilicone polymers is well documented in the patent literature. For example, U.S. Patent No. 4,576,999, issued to Eckberg, discloses epoxy and/or acrylic functional polysiloxanes as UV-curable adhesive release coatings. The catalyst may be a photo-initiating onium salt and/or a free radical photo-initiating catalyst. U.S. Patent Nos. 4,279,717 and 4,421,904, both issued to Eckberg, et al., disclose epoxy functional diorganosiloxane fluids combined with iodonium salts to form UV curable adhesive release compositions. U.S. Patent No. 4,547,431 discloses an epoxy functional diorganosiloxane combined with onium salt catalyst and polyfunctional epoxy monomers to also form an adhesive coating.

As described in U.S. Patent No. 4,576,999, the preferred UV photo-initiators for the curing of epoxysilicones are the "onium" salts, of the general formulae:



where different radicals represented by R can be the same or different organic radicals from 1 to about 30 carbon atoms, including aromatic carbocyclic radicals from 6 to 20 carbon atoms which can be substituted with from 1 to 4 monovalent radicals selected from C<sub>(1-8)</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>(1-8)</sub>alkyl, nitro, chloro, bromo, cyano, carboxy, mercapto, etc., and also including aromatic heterocyclic radicals including, for example, pyridyl, thiophenyl, pur-

anyl, and others; and  $\text{MX}_n^-$  is a non-basic, non-nucleophilic anion, such as  $\text{BF}_4^-$ ,  $\text{PF}_6^-$ ,  $\text{AsF}_6^-$ ,  $\text{SbF}_6^-$ ,  $\text{HSO}_4^-$ ,  $\text{ClO}_4^-$ , and others as known in the art. The photo-initiators may be mono- or multi-substituted mono, bis or tris aryl salts. In the above and subsequent definitions, the prefix "hetero" is meant to include linear or cyclic organic radicals having incorporated therein at least one non-carbon and nonhydrogen atom, and is not meant to be limited to the specific examples contained herein. According to U.S. Patent No. 4,977,198, the onium salts are well known, particularly for use in catalyzing cure of epoxy functional materials.

As disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 4,279,717, the radiation-initiated cure of epoxysilicones coated on a substrate can be achieved with UV lamps such as: mercury arc lamps, (high, medium and low pressure), Xenon arc lamps, high intensity halogen-tungsten arc lamps, microwave driven arc lamps and lasers.

Thermal-cure silicone release systems as in Sandford, U.S. Patent No. 4,123,604 and Keil, U.S. Patent No. 3,527,659 make use of silicone resins, specifically Q-containing resins, to provide tight release for CRAs. Alternative compositions described as being useful CRAs are limited to solvent-dispersed products, such as disclosed in Morrow, U.S. Patent No. 4,171,397, Reusser, U.S. Patent No. 4,261,876 and Hockemeyer, U.S. Patent No. 4,208,504. UV cure epoxysilicone release agents, such as disclosed by Eckberg et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,279,717 are premium release agents, particularly when applied to film or plastic substrates.

CRAs for epoxysilicone systems have been produced by syntheses of epoxysilicone polymers incorporating polar phenolic and benzoate ester functional groups in the polymer along with reactive cycloaliphatic epoxy groups, as disclosed by Eckberg et al. in U.S. Patent No. 4,952,657 and U.S. Patent No. 4,977,198, respectively. These compositions, however, have proven to be slower-curing than the low release epoxysilicones with which they are to be blended, and are generally not useful at concentrations below 70 wt % of the total coating bath, particularly against non-aggressive rubber or hot melt adhesives.

A major drawback to the use of the "onium" salt catalysts in the polymerization of epoxysilicones lies in the highly polar nature of these salts. As the commonly used silicones are based on non-polar polydimethylsiloxane polymers, the polar "onium" catalysts are not sufficiently miscible with the resin to affect as fast a cure rate as would generally be desirable nor are suspensions of the insoluble catalysts stable. The need therefore exists to devise novel materials and processes in which the miscibility of the photo-initiators and siloxanes are much improved.

Two general approaches have been taken to increase the miscibility of an onium photo-initiator and an epoxysilicone resin. The first approach has been to increase the hydrophobicity of the catalyst through use of onium salts containing non-polar, organic radicals. This approach led to investigations of potential onium salts, particularly long-chain alkyl-substituted bisaryliodonium salts, which are less polar in nature than their sulfonyum counterparts. As disclosed in U.S. Patents No. 4,882,201 and 4,279,717, particularly useful catalysts of this type are the linear or branched,  $C_8$  or greater alkyl and alkoxy, mono- or disubstituted, bisaryliodonium salts. As further disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 4,882,201, the long-chain, alkoxy-substituted aryliodonium salts also possesses the useful property of being much less toxic than the non-substituted onium salt photo-initiators.

A second approach to alleviating the aforementioned miscibility problem between the photo-initiator and a silicone has been to incorporate silphenylene blocks into a siloxane backbone, for example as disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 4,990,546. This approach, when coupled with the use of the above-described substituted onium salts, proved useful in increasing photo-initiated cure. However, the incorporation of silphenylene blocks into a silicone resin is not commercially viable for release coating applications, since the disilyl-functional benzenes needed to produce the silphenylene-containing polymers are not available in commercial quantities.

In a more indirect effort to overcome the relatively slow cure rates due to the above-mentioned miscibility problem, an epoxysilicone polymer is pre-crosslinked as disclosed, for example, in U.S. Patent No. 4,987,158. While such pre-crosslinked epoxysilicone networks, formed from vinyl tetramer and SiH-containing linear silicones, partially overcome some of the slow cure associated with long chain epoxysilicone coatings which are not rich in epoxy content, these partially-cured resins still do not possess a solubility with iodonium catalysts that is sufficiently high to be commercially useful as UV-curable materials in most applications.

Attempts have been made to utilize silicone resins with linear UV curable epoxysilicone fluids for CRA applications. These have been unsuccessful because non-functional Q resins do not cure into the UV-cured release coating, and epoxy-functional Q resins thus far produced are high viscosity materials or solids in the neat form which are immiscible with known premium release silicone polymers without use of solvent carriers.

Due to the above-mentioned considerations, it has therefore been desirable to increase the miscibility of polar compounds, particularly photo-initiator salts, in epoxysilicone resins such that high and efficient cure rates can be economically achieved. In addition, it would also be advantageous to, at the same time, provide for epoxysilicones that are useful as CRAs and in particular are effective to control the release properties over a broad range of values.

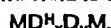
SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In a particular embodiment, the invention is directed to a UV curable epoxy-functional silicone polymer formed by the hydrosilation reaction of a vinyl containing multifunctional resin and a low molecular weight SiH-containing silicone fluid, prior to the introduction of epoxy in a second hydrosilation reaction.

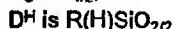
It has been discovered that a novel synthesis of epoxysilicone polymer incorporating Q-type resin structures results in compositions which are faster-curing and which more efficiently modify release than the available controlled release products. The compositions are prepared using a pre-crosslinking reaction, wherein an M<sup>v</sup>MQ or M<sup>v</sup>MTQ silicone resin or a mixture of an M<sup>v</sup>MQ or M<sup>v</sup>MTQ resin and a diallylated polyether is pre-crosslinked with a low molecular weight SiH containing silicone fluid, such that, a portion of available SiH groups of the fluid react via hydrosilation with the vinyl groups of the resin prior to introduction of epoxy in a second hydrosilation reaction of remaining SiH with an olefinic epoxy such as 4-vinylcyclohexeneoxide (VCHO). The resulting product, when used as a CRA for epoxy functional PSAs, results in compositions having a broad range of release characteristics. In one embodiment of the invention, the level of release may be substantially proportional to the amount of CRA.

In a particular embodiment, a method for synthesizing an ultraviolet radiation curable release coating composition is described. The method comprises the steps of reacting (A) a low molecular weight SiH-containing silicone fluid with (B) a silicone resin of the formula M<sup>v</sup>MQ or M<sup>v</sup>MTQ wherein M<sup>v</sup> is a vinyl-substituted mono-functional chainstopper unit R<sup>v</sup>R<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>0.5</sub> where R<sup>v</sup> is a vinyl-containing aliphatic hydrocarbon radical, preferably -CH=CH<sub>2</sub>, and R is an aliphatic or aromatic hydrocarbon radical. The silicone resin has a ratio of monofunctional M to tetrafunctional Q units in the range of about 0.3:1 to about 2.5:1. Optionally, reacting (A) with (B) and (B') an allylated or diallylated polyether of structure CH<sub>2</sub>=CHCH<sub>2</sub>O(CHR'CH<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>a</sub>R'', where a is an integer from 1 to about 50 and R'' is H, R, or -CH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub>. The reaction of (A) with (B) and (B') is such that the total moles of SiH in (A) exceeds the total moles of olefin in (B) + (B') to produce an SiH-containing intermediate composition (C) bearing pendent silicone Q resin or, optionally, (C') an SiH-containing intermediate composition bearing pendent silicone Q resin and pendant polyether blocks. In the method, the SiH groups of (C) or (C') are subsequently reacted with (D) an unsaturated epoxy-containing compound thereby creating (E) an epoxy-functional silicone bearing pendent silicone Q resin or (E') an epoxy-functional silicone bearing pendent silicone Q resin plus pendent polyether block segments.

In the method, (A), the SiH-containing silicone fluid is a linear silicone molecule of general formula



where M is



x ranges from about 2 to about 50, y ranges from about 5 to about 500, and R is an aliphatic or aromatic radical. Preferably x is about 2 to about 10, and more preferably about 2 to about 6. Preferably y is about 10 to about 50, and more preferably about 10 to about 20.

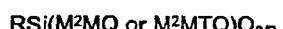
(B), the vinyl-functional silicone resin is of the general formula M<sup>v</sup>MQ or N<sup>v</sup>MTQ, where M<sup>v</sup> is CH<sub>2</sub>=CH(R)<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>1/2</sub>, T is RSiO<sub>3/2</sub>, and Q is SiO<sub>4/2</sub>. The ratio of total M:Q is about 0.3:1.0 to about 2.5:1.0, preferably about 0.5:1.0 to about 1.0:1.0, and more preferably about 0.5:1.0 to about 0.8:1.0. The total weight % vinyl is about 0.5 to about 5.0, preferably about 1.0 to 3.0, and more preferably about 1.0 to 2.0%.

(B'), the allyl-functional polyether is of the general structure CH<sub>2</sub>=CHCHO(CHR'CH<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>z</sub>R'', where R' is H, CH<sub>3</sub>, or C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>; and where R'' is H, R, or -CH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub>. Preferably z is about 1 to about 50, preferably about 5 to about 30, more preferably about 5 to about 20.

In the method herein disclosed, (C) and (C'), the intermediate reaction product may be represented as, respectively,



where n + m = x, and where D<sup>H</sup> is



and where M<sup>2</sup> is -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>SiR<sub>2</sub>O<sub>1/2</sub>;

and (C') is MD<sub>y</sub>D<sup>H</sup><sub>a</sub>D<sup>H</sup><sub>b</sub>D<sup>H</sup><sub>c</sub>M,

where a + b + c = x, D<sup>H</sup> is



where M<sup>3</sup> is -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-; R' is H, CH<sub>3</sub>, or C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, and R'' is R, H, or M<sup>3</sup>Si = is from an adjacent polymer chain. Preferably n is about 1 to about 20, preferably about 1 to about 10, and more preferably from 1 to about 5. Preferably m is about 1 to about 40, preferably about 2 to about 20, and more preferably from about 2 to about 10. Preferably a is about 1 to about 20, preferably about 1 to about 10, and more preferably from 1 to about 5. Pre-

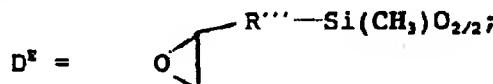
ferably b is about 1 to 10, preferably about .1 to 5, and more preferably 1 to 3.

(D), the unsaturated epoxy-containing compound is selected from aliphatic, cycloaliphatic, or glycidyl epoxy compounds also bearing olefinic groups capable of undergoing hydrosilation addition reactions with SiH-functional groups; preferably selected from allylglycidyl ether, 1-methyl-4-isopropenyl cyclohexeneoxide, 1,4-dimethyl-4-vinylcyclohexeneoxide, and 4-vinylcyclohexaneoxide, and more preferably 4-vinyl cyclohexeneoxide.

(E) or (E'), the epoxy-functional silicone being the reaction product of (C) or (C') with (D), respectively, where

(E) is  $MD_yD^2_nDE_mM$ ,

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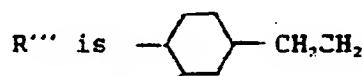


and

(E') is  $MD_yD^2_nD^3_bDE_cM$ ,

where M, D, D<sup>2</sup>, D<sup>3</sup>, D<sup>E</sup>, y, n, m, a, b, c are as defined above, and where R'' is an aliphatic, aromatic, or ether-containing aliphatic group; most preferably

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The ultraviolet radiation curable release coating composition of the invention comprises an (E) epoxy-functional silicone bearing pendent silicone Q resin or (E') an epoxy-functional silicone (E') bearing pendent silicone Q resin plus pendent polyether block segments.

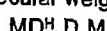
(E) or (E') result from the reaction of (A) a low molecular weight SiH-containing silicone fluid and (B) a silicone resin of the formula  $M^1MQ$  or  $M^1MTQ$  wherein  $M^1$  is a vinyl-substituted monofunctional chainstopper unit  $R^V R_2 Si_{0.5}$  where  $R^V$  is a vinyl-containing aliphatic hydrocarbon radical preferably -CH=CH<sub>2</sub>, and R is an aliphatic or aromatic hydrocarbon radical. Optionally, (E') results from the reaction of (A) with (B) and (B') an allylated or diallylated polyether of structure  $CH_2=CHCH_2O(CHR'CH_2O)_aR''$ , where a is an integer from 1 to 50 and R'' is H, or R, or CH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub>.

In the reaction, the total moles of SiH in (A) exceeds the total moles of olefin in (B) + (B') to produce (C) an SiH-containing intermediate composition bearing pendent silicone Q resin or, optionally, (C'), an SiH-containing intermediate composition bearing pendent silicone Q resin and pendent polyether blocks. A subsequent reaction of the SiH groups of (C) or (C') with (D) an unsaturated epoxy-containing compound thereby produces (E) or (E'). The silicone resin has a ratio of monofunctional M to tetrafunctional Q units in the range of about 0.3:1 to about 2.5:1. (A), (B), (B'), (C'), (D), (E) and (E') are as defined above, and cure is effected in the presence of 'onium salt catalyst.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION:

45 In accordance with the invention, (A) a low molecular weight SiH containing siloxane fluid is pre-cross-linked with (B) a vinyl containing multifunctional silicone resin or a mixture of (B) and (B'), a diallylated polyether, to produce (C) or respectively, a pre-crosslinked intermediate. A portion of the SiH reacts by hydrosilation with the vinyl groups. Thereafter, (D) an olefin-epoxy material is introduced, and in a second hydrosilation reaction the remaining SiH from (A) reacts with (D) to form (E), a UV curable epoxy functional silicone bearing pendent silicone resin or (E'), a UV curable epoxy silicone bearing pendent silicone resin plus chemically bonded polyether blocks.

In general, (A) the silicone fluid is a low molecular weight material having the general formula:



where M is

$R_3SiO_{1/2}$

D<sup>H</sup> is  $R(H)SiO_{2/2}$ ,

D is  $R_2SiO_{2/2}$ ,

x ranges from about 2 to about 50, and

y ranges from about 5 to about 500.

(B) the silicone resin may be any of the following:

M<sup>v</sup>MQ

M<sup>v</sup>MTQ

5 where M<sup>v</sup> is a vinyl substituted monofunctional R<sup>v</sup><sub>1</sub>R<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>1/2</sub> unit where R<sup>v</sup> is a vinyl containing aliphatic hydrocarbon radical and R is an aliphatic or aromatic hydrocarbon radical,

M is R<sub>3</sub>SiO<sub>1/2</sub>,

Q is SiO<sub>4/2</sub>,

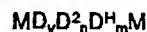
T is RSiO<sub>3/2</sub>.

10 Component (B), the vinyl-functional Q-containing silicone resin, is conveniently prepared by cohydrolysis of blends of the appropriate silanes. For example, an M<sup>v</sup>MTQ resin is prepared by addition of a solution of dimethylvinyl-chlorosilane, trimethylchlorosilane, methyltrimethoxy-silane, and ethylorthosilicate in xylene to water, followed by isolation of the aromatic solvent fraction and work-up well-known to those skilled in the art.

15 Component (B') is an allyl-functional polyether, preferably diallyl-stopped, such as CH<sub>2</sub>=CHCH<sub>2</sub>O(CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>z</sub>-OCH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub>. (B') can also be monoallylated, such as CH<sub>2</sub>=CHCH<sub>2</sub>O[CHR'CH<sub>2</sub>O]<sub>z</sub>R', where z is an integer and R' is H or CH<sub>3</sub> or C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>.

Component (B') may be present in the composition of this invention in an amount ranging from 0% to about 50%, preferably from about 0 to 25%, and more preferably from about 0 to about 10% by weight.

20 Component (C) is the reaction product of an excess of (A) with (B) such that sufficient unreacted SiH is retained for subsequent reaction with (D), an olefinic epoxide, to produce a UV-curable epoxy-functional silicone polymer product. For example, MD<sup>v</sup>D<sub>x</sub>M, component (A), when reacted with M<sup>v</sup>MQ or M<sup>v</sup>MTQ resin such that the SiH groups of (A) are in excess compared with the vinyl groups of the resin (B), provides an intermediate product, component (C), which can be represented as



25 where n+m = x, D<sup>2</sup> is RSi(M<sup>2</sup>MQ or M<sup>2</sup>MTQ)O<sub>2/2</sub>, and where M<sup>2</sup> is -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>O<sub>1/2</sub>.

Component (C') is the reaction product of (A) with (B) or (B') or mixtures thereof such that the total amount of reactive SiH in (A) is sufficiently greater than the combined amount of olefin in the components (B) and (B') to permit subsequent reaction with the olefin epoxide (D) to produce a UV-curable epoxysilicone composition.

30 Component (C') can be represented as



where a+b+c = x, D<sup>2</sup> is as described above, and D<sup>3</sup> is



35 where M<sup>3</sup> is -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-, R' is H, CH<sub>3</sub>, or CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>, and R" is R, H, or -M<sup>3</sup>Si- from a second silicone polymer chain. (C') can thus be thought of as linear silicone molecule derived from component (A) lightly crosslinked through silicone resin and polyether linkages.

40 Component (D) is an organic epoxide monomer also bearing unsaturation rendering it capable of hydroxylation reaction with SiH groups present on components (C) or (C') to produce compositions (E) or (E'), respectively, which are each epoxy-functionalized silicone polymers incorporating pendant silicone Q resin without or with block polyether segments, respectively.

45 The vinyl- or allyl-functional epoxides contemplated are any of a number of aliphatic, glycidyl, or cycloaliphatic epoxy compounds having olefinic moieties which will readily undergo addition reactions with SiH-functional groups. Commercially obtainable examples of such compounds include allyl glycidyl ether, methallyl glycidyl ether, 1-methyl-4-isopropenyl cyclohexeneoxide (limoneneoxide, SCM Corp.), 1,4-dimethyl-4-vinylicyclohexeneoxide (VCHO) (Viking Chemical Co.), and 4-vinyl cyclohexene monoxide. 4-vinyl cyclohexene monoxide (VCHO) is preferred.

In a particular embodiment, a method for synthesizing an ultraviolet radiation curable release coating composition is described. The method comprises the steps of reacting (A) a low molecular weight SiH-containing silicone fluid (B) with a silicone resin of the formula M<sup>v</sup>MQ or M<sup>v</sup>MTQ wherein M<sup>v</sup> is a vinyl-substituted monofunctional chainstopper unit R<sup>v</sup><sub>1</sub>R<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>0.5</sub> where R<sup>v</sup> is a vinyl-containing aliphatic hydrocarbon radical, preferably -CH=CH<sub>2</sub>, and R is an aliphatic or aromatic hydrocarbon radical. The silicone resin has a ratio of monofunctional M to tetrafunctional Q units in the range of about 0.3:1 to about 2.5:1. Optionally, reacting (A) with (B') an allylated or diallylated polyether of structure CH<sub>2</sub>=CHCH<sub>2</sub>O(CHR'CH<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>a</sub>R", where a is an integer from 1 to about 50 and R" is H, R, or -CH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub>. The reaction of (A) with (B) and (B') is such that the total moles of SiH in (A) exceeds the total moles of olefin in (B) + (B') to produce an SiH-containing intermediate composition (C) bearing pendant silicone Q resin or, optionally, (C') an SiH-containing intermediate composition bearing pendant silicone Q resin and pendant polyether blocks. In the method, the SiH groups of (C) or (C') are subsequently reacted with (D) an unsaturated epoxy-containing compound thereby creating (E) an epoxy-functional

silicone bearing pendent silicone Q resin or (E') an epoxy-functional silicone bearing pendent silicone Q resin plus pendent polyether block segments.

5 In the method, (A), the SiH-containing silicone fluid is a linear silicone molecule of general formula  $MD^H_xD_yM$ , where M is  $R_3SiO_{1/2}$ ,  $D^H$  is  $R(H)SiO_{2/2}$ , D is  $R_2SiO_{2/2}$ , x ranges from about 2 to about 50, y ranges from about 5 to about 500, and R is an aliphatic or aromatic radical. Preferably x is about 2 to about 10, and more preferably about 2 to about 6. Preferably y is about 10 to about 50, and more preferably about 10 to about 20.

10 (B), the vinyl-functional silicone resin is of the general formula  $M^VMQ$  or  $M^VMTQ$ , where  $M^V$  is  $CH_2=CH(R)_2SiO_{1/2}$ , T is  $RSiO_{3/2}$ , and Q is  $SiO_{4/2}$ . The ratio of total M:Q is about 0.3:1.0 to about 2.5:1.0, preferably about 0.5:1.0 to about 1.0:1.0, and more preferably about 0.5:1.0 to about 0.8:1.0. The total weight % vinyl is about 0.5 to about 5.0, preferably about 1.0 to 3.0, and more preferably about 1.0 to 2.0%.

15 (B'), the allyl-functional polyether is of the general structure  $CH_2=CHCHO(CHR'CH_2O)R''_z$ , where R' is H, CH<sub>3</sub>, or C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>; and where R'' is H, R, or -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH=CH<sub>2</sub>. Preferably z is about 1 to about 50, preferably about 5 to about 30, more preferably about 5 to about 20.

15 In the method herein disclosed, (C) and (C'), the intermediate reaction product may be represented as, respectively,

(C) is  $MD_yD^2_nD^H_mM$ ,  
where n + m = x, and where D<sup>2</sup> is



20 and where M<sup>2</sup> is  $-CH_2CH_2SiR_2O_{1/2}$ ,

and (C') is  $MD_yD^2_aD^3_bD^H_cM$ ,

where e + b + c = x, D<sup>3</sup> is



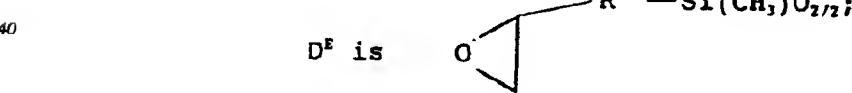
where M<sup>3</sup> is  $-CH_2CH_2CH_2-$ , R' is H, CH<sub>3</sub>, or C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, and R'' is R, H, or M<sup>3</sup>SiE is from an adjacent polymer chain.

25 Preferably n is about 1 to about 20, preferably about 1 to about 10, and more preferably from 1 to about 5. Preferably m is about 1 to about 40, preferably about 2 to about 20, and more preferably from about 2 to about 10. Preferably a is about 1 to about 20, preferably about 1 to about 10, and more preferably from 1 to about 5. Preferably b is about 1 to 10, preferably about 1 to 5, and more preferably 1 to 3.

30 (D), the unsaturated epoxy-containing compound is selected from aliphatic, cycloaliphatic, or glycidyl epoxy compounds also bearing olefinic groups capable of undergoing hydrosilation addition reactions with SiH-functional groups; preferably selected from allylglycidyl ether, 1,4-dimethyl-4-isopropenyl cyclohexeneoxide, 1,4-dimethyl-4-vinylcyclohexeneoxide, and 4-vinylcyclohexeneoxide, and more preferably 4-vinyl cyclohexeneoxide.

35 (E) or (E'), the epoxy-functional silicone being the reaction product of (C) or (C') with (D), respectively, where

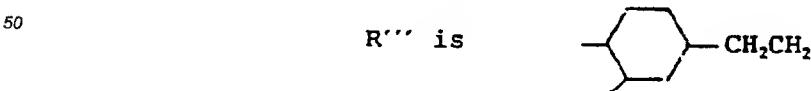
(E) is  $MD_yD^2_nDE_mM$ ,



and

45 (E') is  $MD_yD^2_aD^3_bDE_cM$ ,

where M, D, D<sup>2</sup>, D<sup>3</sup>, DE, y, n, m, a, b, and c are as defined above, and where R'' is an aliphatic, aromatic, or ether containing aliphatic group; more preferably



The ultraviolet radiation curable release coating composition of the invention comprises an (E) epoxy-functional silicone bearing pendent silicone Q resin or (E') an epoxy-functional silicone (E') bearing pendent silicone Q resin plus pendent polyether block segments.

55 (E) or (E') result from the reaction of (A) a low molecular weight SiH-containing silicone fluid and (B) a silicone resin of the formula  $M^VMQ$  or  $M^VMTQ$  wherein  $M^V$  is a vinyl-substituted monofunctional chainstopper

unit  $R^V R_2 SiO_{0.5}$  where  $R^V$  is a vinyl-containing aliphatic hydrocarbon radical preferably  $-CH=CH_2$ , and R is an aliphatic or aromatic hydrocarbon radical. Optionally, (E') results from the reaction of (A) and (B) + (B'), an allylated or diallylated polyether of structure  $CH_2=CHCH_2O(CHR'CH_2O)_aR''$ , where a is an integer from 1 to 50 and R'' is H, R, or  $-CH_2CH=CH_2$ .

5 In the reaction, the total moles of SiH in (A) exceeds the total moles of olefin in (B) + (B') to produce (C) an SiH-containing intermediate composition bearing pendent silicone Q resin or, optionally, (C'), an SiH-containing intermediate composition bearing pendent silicone Q resin and pendant polyether blocks. A subsequent reaction of the SiH groups of (C) or (C') with (D) an unsaturated epoxy-containing compound thereby produces (E) or (E'). The silicone resin has a ratio of monofunctional M to tetrafunctional Q units in the range of about  
10 0.3:1 to about 2.5:1. (A), (B), (B'), (C'), (D), (E) and (E') are as defined above, and cure is effected in the presence of a cationic salt catalyst.

In order to promote UV curing, a photocatalyst or combination of photocatalysts may be employed. Preferred photocatalysts for the epoxyfunctional silicone compositions are the onium salts having the formulae:



20 wherein each R is independently an organic radical of from 1 to 30 carbon atoms. Radicals represented by R include aromatic carbocyclic radicals of from 6 to 20 carbon atoms which can be substituted with from 1 to 4 monovalent radicals selected from  $C_{(1-8)}$  alkoxy,  $C_{(1-8)}$  alkyl, nitrogen, chloro, bromo, cyano, carboxy, mercapto, and the like, as well as aromatic heterocyclic radicals including, e.g., pyridyl, thiophenyl, pyranyl, and the like.

25 In the onium salt formulas provided above,  $MX_n^-$  is a non-basic, non-nucleophilic anion, such as  $BF_4^-$ ,  $PF_6^-$ ,  $AsF_6^-$ ,  $SbF_6^-$ ,  $SbCl_6^-$ ,  $HSO_4^-$ ,  $ClO_4^-$ , and the like.

The preferred onium salts for use in the composition of this invention are the diaryliodonium salts, such as bis(dodecylphenyl)iodonium hexafluoroarsenate and bis(dodecylphenyl)iodonium hexafluoroantimonate, with bis(dodecylphenyl)iodonium hexafluoroantimonate being the most preferred.

30 The amount of catalyst used is not critical, so long as proper cure is effected. As with any catalyst, it is preferable to use the smallest effective amount possible; however, for purposes of illustration, catalyst levels of from about 1% to about 5%, and preferably from about 1% to about 3%, by weight based on the weight of the composition have been found suitable.

The following compositions were prepared and are given by way of illustration and should not be construed in any way as limiting the invention.

35 Example I

75 g of an SiH fluid of composition  $MD^H_4D_{15}M$ , total SiH = 0.1425 moles, was dispersed in 75 g toluene in a 500 cc flask. 25 g of an MM<sup>V</sup>Q resin with 1.71 wt % Vi (0.0161 total moles Vi) and an M/Q ratio of 0.67 was added to the reaction mixture as a 50% solution in toluene. The FTIR of this solution was obtained as the reference spectrum. 0.008 g of  $RhCl(Ph_3P)_3$  catalyst was then added, and the reaction mixture brought to 110° reflux for 6 hours. FTIR examination of this reaction mixture revealed that 90% of the SiH had reacted with the vinyl groups of the MM<sup>V</sup>Q resin at this time (vs 89% theory). 16g of VCHO (0.129 moles) was then added to the refluxing solution in dropwise fashion followed by 2 hours reflux, which reduced the SiH to negligible concentration. 0.01 g of methyldicocoamine stabilizer was then added, the batch was vacuum stripped of siloxane light ends, toluene, and excess VCHO to yield 109 g fluid product, 427 cst k viscosity,  $n_D^{25}=1.4223$ , and 98% solids. Solids content is determined by a weight loss test when 1g of the sample on an aluminum dish is heated in a forced convection oven at 150°C for 45 minutes. The weight loss in % volatiles is a measure of the remaining solids. The resulting product incorporated 21.7 wt % MVMQ resin, and possessed an Epoxy Equivalent Weight of 766.

50 Examples II and III

Two similar syntheses were carried out yielding products whose properties are tabulated and compared with Example I in the Table below.

TABLE I

Example	% Vi in MM <sup>V</sup> Q Resin	M/Q	% Resin	Visc.
I	1.71	0.67	21.7	427
II	2.93	0.67	21.8	725
III	1.71	0.67	33.3	1385

5 All of these compositions proved to be miscible with a conventional premium release epoxysilicone polymer such as an epoxy functional PDMS fluid having an epoxy equivalent weight (EEW) of about 941 (hereinafter ES-I). The compositions of Examples I, II and III were mixed with 2 wt % bisdodecylphenylium hexafluorooctylmonate photocatalyst solution. A 0.5 mil coating of each Example I and II was cured to smear- and migration-free surfaces when applied to polyethylene coated craft paper (PEK) and exposed to 25 mJ/cm<sup>2</sup> focused UV light energy in an RPC lab UV Processor in the presence of 2 wt % catalyst solution. The same cure speed of 400 fpm in the RPC device is about what is normally observed with premium release EF-PDMS polymers.

10 CRA performance of these materials was next evaluated by coating each composition as 20% solids solutions in a 9:1 hexane:acetone solvent blend (using 2 wt % photocatalyst solution based on total epoxysilicone) on PEK sheets with a #3 wire-wound rod to obtain a coatweight of about 1.5g/m<sup>2</sup>, then passing the sheets through the UV Processor once at 100 fpm under 400 watts/in total UV power to ensure complete cure. A 1 inch wide tape (J&J Surgical tape) was affixed to the cured silicone coatings and the force required to delaminate the tape from the silicone surface at 12 lpm pull speed was measured following 20 hr. aging at 70°C. The release results were as follows:

TABLE II

Example I	140-180 grams ('zippy' release)
Example II	160-200 grams ('zippy' release)
Example III	280-300 grams (smooth, even release)

20 Of these three candidates, the release performance of Example III polymer is preferred because it is the highest numerical value and is a smooth, even release.

25 Blends of Example III with ES-I were coated and cured out of solvent as described above, along with blends of phenolic substituted epoxy silicone (ES-II), such as those taught in U.S. 4,952,657, as a control, and the same tape release test carried out on the cured sheets so obtained. The results are shown below in Table III:

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TABLE III

Blends of ES-I and CRA				
	CRA	% ES-I	% CRA	Release, g/in
5	none	100	0	25-30
	Ex. III	50	50	40-45
10	Ex. III	25	75	55-65
	Ex. III	10	90	80-100
15	Ex. III	0	100	280-300
	ES-II	50	50	25-35
20	ES-II	25	75	45-55
	ES-II	10	90	65-80
	ES-II	0	100	100-140

The epoxysilicone of Example III with pre-reacted Q resin described above is superior to the phenol-modified ES-II CRA in that it provides a larger differential of release when compared to the unmodified premium release of ES-I. Furthermore, it is coatable at 100% solids, unlike prior art epoxy-functionalized MQ resins. It appears that the 'zippy' uneven release exhibited by the compositions of Examples I and II result from the high epoxy content of these polymers (EEW < 800) which has been observed to promote ragged, zippy-type release in UV-cured epoxysilicone coatings derived from these fluids (as reported by Eckberg in Radtech-North America 1988 Conference Proceedings pp 576-586).

The above described syntheses and use of epoxysilicone polymers prepared via sequential hydrosilation addition of MM<sup>V</sup>Q resins, then VCHO, to low molecular weight SiH-functional silicone fluids resulted in products that proved to be superior to existing epoxysilicone terpolymers developed for controlled release applications. An analogous synthesis was carried out by substituting a different class of Q-containing resins for the MM<sup>V</sup>Q resins. The resulting products are useful for UV cure CRA applications when used with conventional epoxysilicone release agents.

#### Examples IV-V

A silicone resin was synthesized and found to conform to the following formula through Si<sup>29</sup> analysis: M<sub>0.84</sub>M<sup>V</sup><sub>0.05</sub>T<sub>5</sub>Q<sub>5</sub>. This resin was a tacky, semi-liquid material similar in its flow properties to a soft gum. Use of the resin required warming it above room temperature so it would flow. 75 g of an MD<sub>15</sub>DH<sub>4</sub>M fluid was mixed with 25 g of the MM<sup>V</sup>TQ resin described above plus 75 g toluene. A reference FTIR spectrum of this solution was obtained. 0.02 g of the platinum catalyst described above was then added, and the reaction was mix agitated at 110°C for 2 hours, at which time the SiH concentration was found to be reduced to 89% of the original concentration (88% theoretical). 0.01 g of MeN(C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>37</sub>)<sub>2</sub> stabilizer was then added, followed by dropwise addition of 0.16 g of a solution of RhCl<sub>3</sub>[(n-Bu)<sub>2</sub>S]<sub>3</sub> in ethanol containing 1.36% Rh., then 16 g of VCHO, at 110°. This was followed by a brief hold at reflux after which all SiH was found to have reacted. The batch was stripped to 140°C to yield 107 g of a 310 cstk viscosity fluid product, n<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> = 1.4199, and 97.2% solids. Two other experiments were carried out varying the relative amounts of the MM<sup>V</sup>TQ resin, and VCHO giving two other fluid products. These new compositions are described and compared in Table IV below:

50

55

TABLE IV

<u>Example No.</u>	<u>% MM'TQ Resin</u>	<u>Viscosity</u>	<u>EEW*</u>
IV	21.6	310 cstk	914
V	33.5	854	1157
VI	40.8	1484	1340

\*Calculated Epoxy Equivalent Weight.

Blends of each of these compositions with 2% of the iodonium photocatalyst listed above proved to be hazy, but stable mixtures, which, when manually applied to PEK substrate as 0.5 mil coatings, cured to smear- and migration-free adhesive films on exposure to 30-40 mJ/cm<sup>2</sup> UV flux using the RPO Processor.

CRA performance of Examples IV and V, the two lower viscosity members of this series, was assessed as described above using the surgical tape as follows:

Example IV: 100-180 g/in (slippy, ratchedy release)

Example V: 220-240 g/in (smooth, even release)

Blends of Example V with ES-I were then coated out of solvent as above, and release versus the surgical tape (20 hour 70° AAR) was again determined:

TABLE V

<u>% Ex. V</u>	<u>% ES-I</u>	<u>Release, g/in</u>
0	100	20
50	50	40
75	25	60-75
90	10	110-130
100	0	220-240

The results show that a broad range of release characteristics is achievable in the epoxy silicones prepared in accordance with the present invention.

Epoxy silicones prepared by pre-reaction of MM'TQ resins are preferred over those prepared from the MM'Q resins because considerably more pendant resin may be reacted into the epoxy-silicone structure if the T-containing resin is used without unacceptably high viscosity products resulting.

#### EXAMPLE VII

The composition of Example V described above was synthesized yielding 5 Kg except that the batch proved to be 2000 cstk viscosity and incorporated 33 wt % of a resin of structure M<sub>0.7</sub>M'<sub>0.07</sub>T<sub>0.5</sub>Q<sub>0.5</sub> (1.3% Vinyl content).

The following exemplary compositions were made up:

TABLE VI

5	<u>Example*</u>	<u>EX. VII</u>	<u>ES-I</u>
	VIII	100	0
10	IX	90	10
	X	75	25
	XI	60	40
15	XII	40	60
	XIII	0	100

20 \*All examples contain 3 parts by weight photocatalyst based upon 100 parts of the composition.

An 18 inch wide 3-roll offset gravure pilot coater was used to apply these compositions to a polyethylene laminated kraft substrate (PEK, from Thilmany Co) at a line speed of 400 fpm, and a coat weight of about 1 g/m<sup>2</sup>. Cure was effected by exposure of the moving web to two focused banks of Fusion Systems (Rockville, MD) microwave-fired ultraviolet lamps with medium pressure mercury emission spectrum. All coating baths cured to smear- and migration-free surfaces immediately on irradiation.

Samples of each cured coating were laminated with a solvent-borne acrylic PSA sold under the trade designation GELVA 263 by Monsanto, then an SCK (supercalendered kraft paper) face stock applied atop the adhesive layer. 2 inch wide tapes of these laminates were prepared, the release force required to pull the silicone/ PEK lamina away from the PSA/face stock lamina was then determined for a 400 ipm pull, at 180° angle. Laminates were aged for 4 weeks at ambient conditions. Example VIII was not tested in this fashion; rather, the surgical tape was applied to cured coatings of this composition as described above with release of 340 g/in noted at 12 ipm pull. (This is a very high release force for this non-aggressive tape.) Release results are tabulated below in Table VII:

TABLE VII

40	EXAMPLE NO.	Initial Release	4 Week Aged
	IX	155-170 g/2in	180-190 g/2in
	X	115-125	120-130
45	Xi	80-90	80-90
	XII	75-85	65-70
	XIII	50-55	45-55

50 Release was quite stable throughout the testing period. Most importantly a significant release differential was observed between Example XIII (no CRA) and Example XII (40% CRA EX. XII-Table VI). Prior art CRAs used with the known UV curable epoxysilicone systems (eg. ES-II noted above and benzoate substituted epoxysilicones having an EEW of 1500, ES-III), were ineffective for raising release at levels < 70 wt % of the coating composition when mixed with ES-I.

55 It has also been found that co-addition of an allylated polyether with the Q resin via hydrosilation prior to VCHO reaction, provides a UV-curable epoxysilicone with superior CRA properties plus enhanced iodonium photocatalyst solubility.

Example XIV

The following materials were weighed into a 1 liter flask fitted with a reflux condenser and overhead stirrer:  
 5 100 g of an SiH fluid, approximate formula  $MD_{15}D^4M$ , = 0.19 moles reactive SiH, 150 g toluene, 90 g of a 52  
 wt % solution of  $M_{0.7}M^V_{0.5}T_{0.5}Q_{0.5}$  resin in toluene, = 0.023 moles vinyl, 6 g of an allyl-stopped polyether, ap-  
 proximate formula  $CH_2=CHCH_2O(CH_2CH_2O)_{11}CH_2-CH=CH_2$ , = 0.021 moles allyl. The total olefin content of this  
 mixture was 0.044 moles. An infrared spectrum of the batch was obtained, then 0.05 g of a solution of platinum  
 catalyst was added to the flask, and the reaction mix brought to 112°C for an hour. The SiH concentration was  
 reduced to 72% of the original concentration at this point, versus a theoretical reduction of 76%. 0.013 g of  
 10 methyldicocoamine stabilizer plus 0.1 g of an ethanolic solution of  $RhCl_3[(Bu)_2S]_3$  were added, and the reaction  
 mixture brought to reflux while 22 g (0.177 moles) of VCHO was added dropwise. A 2 hour hold after the VCHO  
 feed reduced the SiH concentration to zero, after which the batch was stripped of solvent and other lite ends  
 in vacuo at 170°C. A 1277 cstk fluid product was ultimately obtained, with 2% volatile content by 150°C weight  
 loss test described above.

15 Blends of the composition Example XIV with 1, 2, and 3% of the iodonium photocatalyst solution were uni-  
 formly clear, stable solutions, with no sign of any incompatibility. A 2% catalyzed bath was applied to PEK sub-  
 strate as a 0.5 mil coating, cured to a smear- and migration-free coating on exposure to 72 mJ/cm<sup>2</sup> UV flux in  
 the RPC Processor. The cure rate was slower than non-polyether-containing CRAs but quite satisfactory none-  
 theless. 90:10 blends of this and a similar bound Q resin CRA, example V described above, with an epoxy  
 20 functional PDMS having the form  $M^ED^5D_{95}M^E$  and an EEW of 1075 (ES-IV), as well as ES-IV alone, were pre-  
 pared in a 9:1 hexane:acetone solvent mixture, then coated on PEK using a mechanical lab coater and a #3  
 wire-wound rod. Cure was effected with 2% iodonium photocatalyst, based on polymer solids, on exposure to  
 150 mJ/cm<sup>2</sup> UV flux. Cured coatings were later laminated with Monsanto GELVA 263 solvent-borne acrylic  
 25 PSA, then top-laminated with SCK paper stock. Release was recorded for 2 inch wide strips pulled at 400 ipm,  
 180°. The results were as follows:

TABLES VIII

30	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">ES-IV</td><td style="padding: 2px;">50 g/2 in</td></tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">90% Example V</td><td style="padding: 2px;">220 g/2in</td></tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">90% Example XIV</td><td style="padding: 2px;">425 g/2in</td></tr> </table>	ES-IV	50 g/2 in	90% Example V	220 g/2in	90% Example XIV	425 g/2in
ES-IV	50 g/2 in						
90% Example V	220 g/2in						
90% Example XIV	425 g/2in						

35 It is apparent that the presence of the polyether in the Q containing epoxysilicone CRA of Example XIV  
 not only improves compatibility of the material with 'onium salt catalysts, but unexpectedly and dramatically  
 raises the release force almost twofold. This is a desirable characteristic in a CRA, since such a CRA allows  
 the end-user a large range of release values to fit a variety of application requirements. The higher the release  
 range attainable the more useful the CRA can be. The level of release may be proportional to the amount of  
 CRA in the system.

40 In accordance with the foregoing, the invention is directed to forming a UV-curable epoxysilicone CRA  
 composition by means of consecutive hydrosilation reactions:

- 1)  $MD_x^HD_yM + M^VIMQ$  or  $M^VIMTQ$  and/or  
 up to about 50 weight % of allyl polyether based upon the total of (B) and (B')
- 2)  $MD_yD_u^2D_m^HM$  and/or  $MD_yD_a^2D_b^3D_c^HM$
- 3)  $MD_yD_n^2D_m^EM$  and/or  $MD_yD_a^2D_b^3D_c^EM$

where the various components are as defined above.

In particular embodiments, controllable release properties may be effectively and predictably achieved by substantially proportional incorporation of the CRA compositions herein disclosed.

While there have been described what at present are considered to be the preferred embodiments of the  
 50 present invention, it will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art that various changes may be made therein without departing from the invention and it is intended in the claims to cover such changes and modifications as fall within the true spirit and scope of the invention.

55 **Claims**

1. A method of providing an ultraviolet radiation curable composition for forming a release coating for pres-

sure sensitive adhesives, said method comprising the steps of:

- reacting (A), a low molecular weight SiH-containing silicone fluid with,
- (B), a silicone resin of the formula  $M^vMQ$  or  $M^vMTQ$  wherein  $M^v$  is a vinyl-substituted monofunctional chainstopper unit  $R^vR_2SiO_{0.5}$ ,  $R^v$  is a vinyl-containing aliphatic hydrocarbon radical, and R is an aliphatic or aromatic hydrocarbon radical, or
- mixtures of (B) and (B'), an allylated or diallylated polyether of structure  $CH_2=CHCH_2O(CHR'CH_2O)_aR''$ , where a is an integer from 1 to about 50 and  $R''$  is H, R, or  $-CH_2CH=CH_2$ , or
- mixtures of (B) and (B') in such a fashion that the total moles of SiH in (A) exceeds the total moles of olefin in (B) + (B') to respectively produce (C) an SiH-containing Intermediate composition bearing pendant silicone Q resin or, (C'), an SiH-containing Intermediate composition bearing pendant silicone Q resin and pendant polyether blocks, or mixtures of (C) and (C');
- subsequently reacting the SiH groups of available (C) or (C') with an unsaturated epoxy-containing compound (D) thereby respectively producing (E), an epoxy-functional silicone bearing pendant silicone Q resin or (E') an epoxy-functional silicone bearing pendant silicone Q resin plus pendant polyether block segments or mixtures of (E) and (E').

2. The method of providing an ultraviolet radiation curable composition as in claim 1, wherein said silicone resin has a ratio of monofunctional M to tetrafunctional Q units in the range of about 0.3:1 to about 2.5:1.
3. The method of providing an ultraviolet radiation curable composition as in Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein said (A) is a linear silicone molecule of general formula  $MD^x_xD_yM$ , where M is  $R_3SiO_{1/2}$ , D<sup>x</sup> is  $R(H)SiO_{2/2}$ , D is  $R_2SiO_{2/2}$ , and where x ranges from about 2 to about 50, and where y ranges from about 5 to about 500, and where R is an aliphatic or aromatic radical.
4. The method of providing an ultraviolet radiation curable composition as in any preceding claim, wherein (B) is of the general formula  $M^vMQ$  or  $M^vMTQ$ , where  $M^v$  is  $CH_2=CH(R)_2SiO_{1/2}$ , T is  $RSiO_{3/2}$ , and Q is  $SiO_{4/2}$ , and where the ratio of total M:Q is about 0.3:1.0 to about 2.5:1.0.
5. The method of providing an ultraviolet radiation curable composition as in any preceding claim, wherein (B') is of the general formula  $CH_2=CHCHO(CHR'CH_2O)R''$ , where R' is H, CH<sub>3</sub>, or C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>; and where R'' is H, R, or  $-CH_2-CH=CH_2$ , and where z is about 1 to about 50.
6. The method of providing an ultraviolet radiation curable composition as in any preceding claim, wherein said intermediate reaction product (C) and (C') are of the general formulas:
  - (C) is  $MD_yD^{2-n}D^mM$ ,
  - where n + m = x, and where D<sup>2</sup> is  $RSI(M^2MQ$  or  $M^2MTQ)O_{2/2}$ , where M<sup>2</sup> is  $-CH_2CH_2SiR_2O_{1/2}$ ; and
  - (C') is  $MD_yD^2_xD^3_bD^4_cM$ ,
  - where a + b + c = x, D<sup>3</sup> is  $RSI[M^3][OCH(R')CH_2]_zOR'']O_{2/2}$ ,
  - where M<sup>3</sup> is  $-CH_2CH_2CH_2-$ , R' is H, CH<sub>3</sub>, or C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, and R'' is R, H, or M<sup>3</sup>Si = from an adjacent polymer chain; and where n ranges from about 1 to about 20, m ranges from about 1 to about 40, a ranges from about 1 to about 20, and b ranges from about 1 to about 10.
7. The method of providing an ultraviolet radiation curable composition as in any preceding claim, wherein (D) is selected from aliphatic, cycloaliphatic, or glycidyl epoxy compounds also bearing olefinic groups capable of undergoing hydrosilation addition reactions with SiH-functional groups.
8. An ultraviolet radiation curable release coating composition comprising: an epoxy-functional silicone (E) bearing pendant silicone Q resin or an epoxy-functional silicone (E') bearing pendant silicone Q resin plus pendant polyether block segments, or mixtures of (E) and (E'),
  - (E) or (E') respectively, resulting from the reaction of (A) a low molecular weight SiH-containing silicone fluid with,
  - (B), a silicone resin of the formula  $M^vMQ$  or  $M^vMTQ$  wherein  $M^v$  is a vinyl-substituted monofunctional chainstopper unit  $R^vR_2SiO_{0.5}$  where  $R^v$  is a vinyl-containing aliphatic hydrocarbon radical, and R is an aliphatic or aromatic hydrocarbon radical or,
  - (B) + (B'), an allylated or diallylated polyether of structure  $CH_2=CHCH_2O(CHR'CH_2O)_aR''$ , where a is an integer from 1 to 50 and  $R''$  is H, R, or  $-CH_2CH=CH_2$ , or
  - mixtures of (B) and (B') in such a fashion that the total moles of SiH in (A) exceeds the total moles of olefin in (B) + (B') to produce respectively,

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(C), an SiH-containing intermediate composition bearing pendent silicone Q resin or, (C'), an SiH-containing intermediate composition bearing pendent silicone Q resin and pendant polyether blocks, and the subsequent reaction product of the available SiH groups of (C) or (C') with an unsaturated epoxy-containing compound (D) thereby respectively producing (E) or (E') or mixtures thereof.

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9. The ultraviolet radiation curable composition as in claim 8, wherein said (A) is a linear silicone molecule of general formula  $MD^H_xD_yM$ , where M is  $R_3SiO_{1/2}$ ,  $D^H$  is  $R(H)SiO_{2/2}$ , D is  $R_2SiO_{2/2}$ , where x ranges from about 2 to about 50, y ranges from about 5 to about 500, R is an aliphatic or aromatic radical.

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10. The ultraviolet radiation curable composition as in claim 8, wherein (B') is of the general formula  $CH_2=CHCHO(CHR'CH_2O)R_z''$ , where R' is H, CH<sub>3</sub>, or C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>; and where R'' is H, R, or -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH=CH<sub>2</sub>, and where z is about 1 to about 50.

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11. The ultraviolet radiation curable composition as in claim 8, wherein (B') is present in an amount up to about 50 weight % based upon the total weight of Components (B) and (B').

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12. The ultraviolet radiation curable composition as in claim 8, having a release characteristic which varies in proportion to the amount of such material combined with epoxysilane.

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13. The ultraviolet radiation curable composition for forming a release coating for pressure sensitive adhesives, said method comprising the steps of:

combining (A) a low molecular weight SiH containing silicone fluid and (B) a silicone resin having the formula  $M^VMQ$  or  $M^VNTQ$  wherein  $M^V$  is a vinyl substituted mono-functional  $R^V_1R_2SiO_{0.5}$  unit where  $R^V_1$  is a vinyl containing aliphatic hydrocarbon radical and R is an aliphatic or aromatic hydrocarbon radical, said silicone resin having a ratio of mono-functional to tetra-functional units in a range from about 0.3:1 to about 2.5:1; or

(B'), an allylated or diallylated polyether of structure  $CH_2=CHCH_2O(CHR'CH_2O)_aR''$ , where a is an integer from 1 to about 50 and R'' is H, R, or -CH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub>; or

mixtures of (B) and (B'),

partially crosslinking (A) and (B) or (B') to respectively form a partially crosslinked product (C) or (C');

combining (C) or (C') with (D) an epoxy-containing unsaturated compound selected from epoxy-containing olefinic aliphatic or cycloaliphatic hydrocarbons thereby respectively producing (E), an epoxy-functional silicone polymer bearing pendent Q resin, or

(E') an epoxy-functional silicone bearing pendent silicone Q resin plus pendent polyether block segments; or

mixtures of (E) and (E').

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14. The UV curable epoxysilicone polymer (E) or (E') comprising:

the reaction product of

(A) a low molecular weight SiH containing fluid and (B) a  $M^VMQ$  or  $M^VNTQ$  resin; or

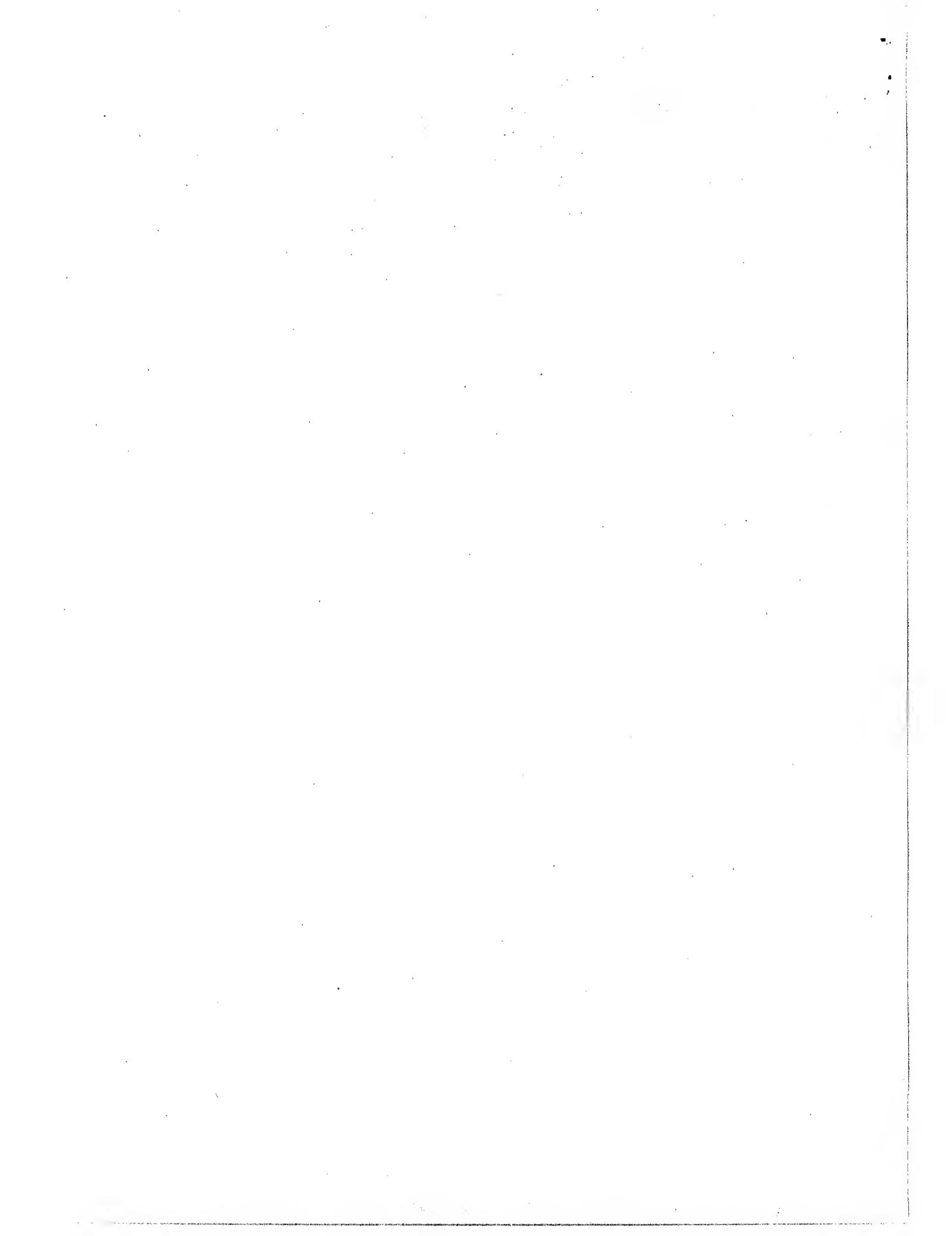
(A) and (B') an allylated or diallylated polyether of structure  $CH_2=CHCH_2O(CHR'CH_2O)_aR''$ , where a is an integer from 1 to about 50 and R'' is H, R, or -CH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub>, resulting in a first hydrosilation partial crosslinking reaction product (C), and (C') respectively,

the subsequent respective reaction product (E) or (E') of (C) and (C') plus (D), an epoxy containing unsaturated compound selected from aliphatic or cyclo aliphatic epoxies, said product (E) being an epoxy-functional silicone bearing pendent silicone Q resin moieties and said product; (E') being an epoxy-functional silicone bearing pendent silicone Q resin plus pendent polyether block segments or mixtures of said products (E) and (E').

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(54) **UV-curable epoxysilicones.**

(57) Epoxy functional silicone materials incorporating vinyl containing multifunctional resins form control release additives when the resins are first partially crosslinked by means of a hydrosilation reaction with a low molecular weight SiH silicone fluid and the reaction product is reacted with an epoxy containing material in a second hydrosilation reaction. The resulting materials function as control release additives in pressure sensitive adhesives.

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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claims	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.)
P,A	EP-A-0 543 384 (DOW CORNING TORAY SILICONE COMP., LTD.) * claim 2; examples * -----	1	C08G77/50 C08G77/38 C08G77/46 C08L83/06 C08L83/12
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.)
			C08G C09D
<p>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p>			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
THE HAGUE	24 July 1995	Schueler, D	
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